

# Highland Park News.

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VOL I

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NO 2

## OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Our library, which belongs to the city of Highland Park, has reached such dimensions as to the number of volumes therein, as well as the character of the books themselves, that it might be easily made an important factor in our intellectual life. But the absurd rule holds of boxing it up, all but a very few hours each week; that is, it is open a couple hours Tuesdays and Saturdays, say a half day in all each week, about one-third the time it should be open in one day. The library should be accessible every week day, from 8 a. m. to 9 or 10 p. m. But all this is impossible now, from lack of funds, but we can afford to have it open at least a couple hours every day, and at not much greater cost for such service than is now paid. It should be open from 2 to 5 every week day, with rare exceptions, unless it would accommodate the people better to have it open forenoons part of the time.

Then again, it should be more centrally located, in the Athenæum, better for the east-siders, and as well for the west-siders. As most of the books are taken by children, they could do it on their way to and from school. Then in the Athenæum, it could be used as a reference library, and also in connection with the reading room. As it now is, while there are plenty of books we wish to consult, we are compelled to go to Chicago, as the only thing we can do here is to take out one book at a time and so spend one month or six weeks to learn what we ought to get in one afternoon. It is time for some improvement in our public library, an institution by the people and for the people.

## ABOUT MAGAZINES.

There is one Magazine Club on the north side of Central avenue known as the North Side Club, and now all on the "South Side," the centre of culture, brain power (?) et al, want one. The strange thing to us is that the highest grade literary magazine, the "Atlantic," and weekly paper, "The Nation," have so few patrons in this city. The first number of the "Atlantic" was issued in November, 1857, and we had it, kept it student-like, under lock and key till read, and so on as the numbers came. It had the same cover essentially as now and was \$3.00 a year, raised to \$4.00 during the war. How we devoured those earlier numbers with all unsigned articles, Holmes' "Autocrat," Emerson's "Poems" and stories that were stories. "The Nation" began in 1865. Our subscription dates from 1867, almost 30 years, every number read and preserved and most of them bound. Those two periodicals, read for a series of years, constitute a liberal education.

We would like to add "Harper's Weekly," both for its pictures and its high grade independent editorials. The literary notices of the "Nation" are the best published in a weekly paper in this country, the overwhelming majority are pure and cheap trash. The "London Weekly Times" will keep you posted as to the news of the whole world.

The Highland Park Club seem to belong to what an ignorant Congressman once styled "them literary fellers", judged by their selection of magazines, etc, for the ensuing year. They have just ordered through our clubbing agency the following: Harper's Monthly and Weekly, Century, Scribner's, Review of Reviews, McClure's, Cosmopolitan, Frank Leslie's, Puck, Judge, and Life, and they want one more, the NEWS, of course.

Subscribe for the NEWS. \$1 per year.

## PERSONAL

The Highland Park Club gave a "leaf party" Saturday evening. We all do fade as a leaf.

City attorney Smoot is compiling a small volume of ordinances of the Village of Fort Sheridan.

Mrs. Van Schaick entertained Mrs. Perkins and friends at lunch during their brief stay in Highland Park.

Next week Thursday, the 17th, Mrs. Isadore P. Taylor of Kenilworth will discuss the Preraphaelites before the Ossoli Club.

Joseph R. Cole, whom so many remember as the polite, courteous and faithful employee of the Northwestern, is on duty at Sharon, Wis.

Miss Cecille Norton, who is at the old Bradford (Mass.) academy, in making her preliminary examination papers for Smith College, has come off with flying colors.

Mrs. Ten Brooke has gone to Washington to spend the winter with her daughter, so she will have all the benefits of the inauguration of President McKinley.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Chandler were out from Chicago Friday and took in the Dutch performance and the latter took them in to the tune of a "V" or an "X," we presume.

Ex-Gov. W. D. Hoard, whom thousands of his friends want in Pres. McKinley's Cabinet, supplies some of our best families with table butter, and none better was ever made.

Mrs. Dwight Perkins of Chicago read a paper before the Ossoli Club last week Thursday on the "City Beautiful," the architectural and artistic possibilities of the public buildings of Chicago. The paper was followed by discussion, led by Mr. Perkins, the architect of the improvements on Frank C. Brown's house and of Lawyer Schumacher's new house on Laurel avenue, and also by Benjamin A. Fessenden.